Appendix C

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(Dr. W. STEPHENSON)

FOR THE YEAR 1934.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA

for the Year 1934.

NATURAL & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: 1,028 acres.
Population (Census 1921): 6,800.
Population (Census 1931): 6,904.
Population (estimated 1934): 7,501.

The district is mainly Agricultural and Fishing, with the exception of the portion occupied by the Newbiggin Coal Mine.

Number of Inhabited Houses (1931): 1,587.
Number of Families (1931): 1,689.
Rateable value: £25,006.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate: £98.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There are a few private families, but the majority of the population is mining, with a small proportion of fishermen.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Births (Legitimate)	65	56	125
,, (Illegitimate)	1	3	
Birth-rate: 16.6.			
Deaths	40	34	74
Death-rate: 9.8.			

Deaths of Women in or in consequence of Childbirth ... Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year:

Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total.
4	4	8

Death-rate of Infants under one year per 1,000 births ...	64
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0

The amount of Poor Relief is increasing considerably, but the Hospitals in Newcastle-upon-Tyne are used extensively for medical and surgical cases.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals provided by the Local Authority: None.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children in the area.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For Infectious Cases: None.

(b) For Non-infectious Cases: Welfare Ambulance on payment of Fee.

CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES.

There is a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre held in the Primitive Methodist School every Monday, provided by the County Authorities. Average attendance, 70.

Tuberculosis Dispensary at Ashington, provided by the County.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITY.

One Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances (whole time); one Medical Officer of Health (part time).

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL. — This work is done by the Newbiggin, Woodhorn and North Seaton Nursing Association and by the Newbiggin Colliery Nursing Association, supported by voluntary contributions and each employing one Nurse for General, Accident, and Maternity Cases.

(b) No nursing of Infectious Cases is undertaken.

MIDWIVES.

No Midwife is employed by the Local Authority. The Colliery and District Nurses act as Midwives under the County Council.

CHEMICAL WORK.

By arrangement with the County Council, pathological and bacteriological examinations are made at the Laboratories of the County Council at Newburn.

Antitoxin in cases of Diphtheria is provided by the Council.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(a)	Total	131
(b)	As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	52

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

The general housing conditions are fairly good. There is still a great shortage of suitable houses for the working classes. There are still numerous cases of overcrowding, two or more families living in one house owing to the shortage of houses.

The general standard of houses within the area is fairly good, the greater portion being brick built, the general defects being dampness in the older stone built houses, several of which are very poor and unfit for habitation.

Owing to the lack of housing accommodation, wooden buildings are still occupied in several parts of the district of a very inferior class, with little or no sanitary conveniences. These should be closed as soon as suitable houses are available.

BYELAWS.

There are no Byelaws relating to houses let in lodgings, and to tents, vans, sheds, etc.

MILK SUPPLY.

There is a plentiful supply of milk, the greater quantity coming from outside the district.

There are 5 registered Cowkeepers and 17 registered Purveyors of Milk in the district. Number of Cows at 31st Dec., 1934: 59.

MEAT.

The Slaughterhouses are visited regularly and meat inspected. There are no public Slaughterhouses.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

	In December, 1934.
Registered	4
Licensed	Nil
	4

A model set of byres and an up-to-date dairy have been built on the Links, and steam plant for sterilising milk utensils at Woodhorn Demesne Farm.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

PRIVATE STREET WORKS ACT, 1892.

By a resolution of the Urban District Council dated the 6th day of September, 1929, the Private Street Works Act, 1892, came into operation within the district on the 15th day of October, 1929.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1890.

By a resolution of the Urban District Council dated the 6th day of October, 1927, Part III. of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, came into operation within the district on the 16th day of November, 1927.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AMENDMENT ACT, 1907.

By Order of the Local Government Board, dated the 19th day of August, 1909, the following Parts and Sections of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, came into force within the district as and from the 11th day of October, 1909, but subject as to the Sections specified in the Schedule thereto to the conditions set forth in such Schedule.

The Parts and Sections referred to.

Part II, which relates to Streets and Buildings.

Sections 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 49, 50 and 51 comprised in Part III, which is composed of sanitary provisions.

Sections 52 to 66 (both inclusive) and 68 comprised in Part IV, which relates to Infectious Diseases.

Part V, relating to common Lodging-houses.

Part VI, relating to Recreation Grounds.

Part X, relating to Bathing Places, provision of Life-saving appliances and power to license Pleasure Boats, and extending and amending Sections 175 and 176 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as to the purchase of lands for public purposes and the appropriation and use thereof.

The Schedule above referred to.

Parts & Sections.	Conditions and Adaptations.
Part II. Sec. 25.	"The power of making or enforcing Byelaws under "Section 157 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as extended "by Section 23 of the Public Health Acts Amendment "Act, 1890, with respect to the paving of yards and open "spaces in connection with dwelling-houses shall cease to "be exercisable."
Part II. Sec. 27.	"(7) Nothing in this Section shall apply to any "temporary building erected or set up for use by the "Territorial Force."

Part III. "This Section so far as it relates to the deposit
Sec. 35. "of material shall have effect subject to the first proviso "to Section 91 of the Public Health Act, 1875."

"Byelaws made in pursuance of Section 16 of "the Local Government Act, 1888, for the prevention "and suppression of nuisances shall not in relation to "any subject matter of this Section be of any force or "effect within the district."

Part III. "Nothing in this Section shall prejudicially affect
Sec. 38. "any power or right exercisable by or attaching to an "owner or occupier of premises by virtue of Section 22 "of the Public Health Act, 1875, or of Section 18 of "the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890."

Part IV. "(6) Nothing in this Section shall apply to a
Sec. 59. "public or circulating library which is not within the "district."

Part V. "(3) The date of the Order of the Local
Sec. 75. "Government Board by which this part is declared to be "in force shall be the beginning of the period within "which the Local Authority shall give notice for the "purposes of Sub. Sec. (1) of this Section."

. . . . . .

By an Order of the Home Secretary dated the 8th February, 1910, the following Sections were declared to be in force within the district :

Sections 81 and 82.

By an Order of the Home Secretary dated the 16th June, 1930, the following Section was declared to be in force within the district :

Section 83.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The whole of the area is supplied with water from the Tynemouth Corporation Water Main. There is a good and constant service, each house having a separate supply, with the exception of the Colliery Houses, where the pressure is poor.

RIVERS & STREAMS.

There are two small streams in the district.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

All Sewerage is drained into the sea at low water mark and this system is found to be satisfactory.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of Privies : 346.
Number of Water Closets : 1275 outside, 240 inside.
Number of Pail Closets : 108.
During the past year 4 Privies have been converted to W.C.s.

SCAVENGING.

The Scavenging is done by Contract, fortnightly, with the exception of sanitary dustbins, which are cleaned twice weekly. The refuse is deposited on land tips. On the whole the Scavenging has been satisfactory.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Periodical and regular inspections of the district are made.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

These are provided and maintained by the Council in Wansbeck Square, Prospect Place, and Milburn Park.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT: YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1934.

District: NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA.

Population: **7,501.**

Inspector: J. KAILOFER.

		No. of Inspections during year.	No. of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-laws.	No. outstanding from previous year.	Total.	No. remedied after letter or interview.	No. of Informal Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	No. of Statutory Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	In progress or being dealt with.	Legal Proceedings.
Housing.	Structural Defects (Summary of Sheet II)	46	31	101	132	64	12	76			56	
	Defective Food-store	46	28	92	120	40	17	57			63	
	Dampness	46	28		28	20	8	24			4	
	Overcrowding	46	1	62	63	59	4					
	Nuisances	46										
Water Supply.	Insufficient ... ... / Unsatisfactory	444	98	101	199	102					97	
Drainage	Insufficient ... ... / Defective	46	37	101	138	86					52	
Sanitary Conveniences.	Insufficient ... ... / Defective	55	38	101	139	55					84	
Shops, Food-stores, etc.		47										
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops		102										
Slaughterhouses		35										
Tents, Vans, etc.		48	44		44	44						
Offensive Trades		12										
Workshops and Workplaces		38										
Keeping of Animals		9	8		8	8						
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles		40										
Ashpits improperly used		2	2		2	2						
Offensive accumulations		2	2		2	2						
Smoke Nuisances												
Petrol Stores		14										

District: NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA URBAN COUNCIL.

HOUSING (Consolidated) REGULATIONS, 1925.

TABULAR STATEMENT as required by Article 31, for YEAR 1934.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:

	With State assistance.	Unaided.	Total.
(a) By Local Authority	52 ...	Nil ...	52
(b) By other Bodies or Persons ...	Nil ...	79 ...	79

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 46

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 46

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 46

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 46

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 30

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 16

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers 2

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS:

(A) **Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930:—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring repairs ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners ... ... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil } Nil

(B) **Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—

(a) By owners ... ... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil } Nil

(C) **Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of Housing Act, 1930:—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... Nil

(D) **Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:—**

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... Nil

4.—NUMBER OF HOUSES PERMANENTLY DISCONTINUED AS DWELLINGS AND NOT INCLUDED ABOVE ... ... Nil

(Signed) JAS. KAILOFER, Inspector.

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED :—

	District: **NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA** Inspector : JAMES KAILOFER.. Year 1934.	After Letter or Interview.	After Informal Notice.	After Statutory Notice.	Total.
Sanitary Conveniences.	Privies abolished	4			4
	Privies repaired				
	Privy Ashpits abolished	4			4
	Privy Ashpits roofed or repaired				
	Pail Closets abolished				
	Water Closets provided	135			135
	Water Closets repaired	9			9
	Sanitary Bins provided	135			135
	Sanitary Bins renewed	88			88
Drainage.	New Drains constructed	135			135
	Drains repaired or reconstructed	16			16
	Additional Gullies provided ...	20			20
	Old Gullies replaced	7			7
	Scullery Sinks provided				
	Scullery Waste-pipes repaired ...	31			31
	Scullery Waste-pipes trapped ...				
	Yards repaired or reconstructed	2			2

Water Supply.

Sources closed or discontinued—Nil. No. of houses affected—Nil.
New service provided—135 No. of houses affected—135

RIVERS POLLUTION:

Cases Detected	Nil.	Paticulars	Nil.
Remedied	Nil.	Do.	Nil.
S.D. Works provided ...	Nil.	Do.	Nil.

FOOD INSPECTION.

District: NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA.

Inspector: J. KAILOFER. Year 1934.

UNSOUND FOOD.			Surrendered.	Seized.	Legal Proceedings and Result.
1.	Beef (home-killed)	Stones	50		
2.	Beef (imported)	,,			
3.	Mutton (home-killed)	,,			
4.	Mutton (imported)	,,			
5.	Pork	,,			
6.	Game	Lbs.			
7.	Poultry	,,	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Fish	,,			
9.	Fruit	Lbs. or Tins/			
10.	Canned Goods	Cases			
11-	Bacon	Lbs.			
12.	Cheese	,,			
13.	Butter	,,			
14.	Lard	,,			
Other Foods.	Milk Tests		No. of Samples		Tested by C.C.
	Standard of Cleanliness		29		25 Satisfactory 4 Unsatisfactory
	Tuberculosis		20		All Negative
	.....				

REMARKS (with result of any consequent legal proceedings):

Nil

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

No.	Samples taken.	Analysis.	Remarks as to action taken and result.
Nil	Nil	Nil	In the hands of the County Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1934, for the Urban District of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.

On the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. 1	Number of Inspections. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prosecutions. 4
FACTORIES ... ... (Including Factory Laundries)	...	..	...
WORKSHOPS ... ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	12	...	...
WORKPLACES ... ... (Other than Outworkers' premises.	...	...	...
Total	12	Nil	Nil

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. 1	Number of Defects. Found. 2	Remedied. 3	Referred to H.M. Inspector. 4	Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. 5
*Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—**				
Want of Cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of Floors ...				
Other Nuisances				
Sanitary Accommodation { insufficient ... / unsuitable or defective / not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Other offences ... ... (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order. 1921)	...	...	...	...
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under Public Health Acts.

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

NATURE OF WORK. (1)	Instances. (2)	Notices served. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Wearing Apparel:			
Making, &c.			
Cleaning and washing			
Household linen			
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...			
Curtains and furniture hangings ...			
Furniture and upholstery			
Electro-plate			
File making			
Brass and brass articles			
Fur pulling			
Cables and chains			
Anchors and grapnels			
Cart gear			
Locks, latches and keys			
Umbrellas, &c.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Artificial flowers			
Nets, other than wire nets			
Tents			
Sacks			
Racquet and tennis balls			
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags ...			
Brush making			
Pea picking			
Feather sorting			
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c. ...			
Stuffed toys			
Basket making			
Chocolates and sweetmeats			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, &c.			
Textile weaving			
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil

(Signature) W. STEPHENSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

7th May, 1935.

SCHOOLS.

The general sanitary condition and water supply of all the Schools are satisfactory.

Children are excluded from School for Infectious Diseases under the rules laid down in the Memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1925.

BAKEHOUSES.

The two Bakehouses have been regularly inspected and found to be kept clean.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1934.

DISEASE	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	65	—	—
Diphtheria	31	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	33	—	—
Other Diseases	—	—	—
Erysipelas	10	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS: New Cases and Mortality during 1934.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1934:

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0			1	1			1	1
1		1	1			1		
5	1	5	1	1				
10		2		1				
15	1	1	2	1		1		
20		1	1					
25			1					
35						1		
45								
55								
65 and upwards								
Totals	2	10	7	4	—	3	1	1

No action taken as to Tuberculous employees in milk trade.

No action taken under Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

At the present time, as in the past, the outstanding needs of the district are an Infectious Diseases Hospital, Public Slaughterhouse, more Houses for the working class, and Closet Conversion Scheme.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Commenting upon the figures showing the Infectious Diseases reported to me during 1934, I have a few remarks to make.

1934 was a bad year for Scarlet Fever. We had no less than 65 cases reported, the majority of these being isolated at home. The type of Scarlet Fever was on the whole not severe and there were no deaths.

The Diphhteria epidemic which has recently swept Europe reached us in July, 1934. Between July and December we had 31 cases, some of which we were obliged to send to the Ashington Isolation Hospital; others, where possible, were isolated at home. There is no doubt that the number of cases would have been greater had it not been for the use by all the doctors of the Anti-Diphtheritic serum supplied by the Council. There were no deaths in the 1934 cases.

The severity of the North-East coast conduces to pulmonary complaints amongst those who are not acclimatised to the seaside atmosphere in winter. We had 33 cases of Pneumonia reported in 1934. A few of these unfortunately died.

The other pulmonary trouble which causes great loss, expense and worry is Tuberculosis. 24 new cases were reported in 1934, some of them, however, being of a mild non-pulmonary type. Against the addition of these 24 cases to the Tuberculosis Register, it must be borne in mind that through the success of modern methods of treatment a considerable number of patients are removed from the Register each quarter, generally as cured. Take for instance the quarter ended 31st December, 1934—in this quarter no less than 18 cases were removed from the Register. Some had removed from the district but the majority were cured—a tribute to the thoroughness of sanatorium and other treatment.

There is less Erysipelas than there used to be, largely, I think, due to the greater attention people pay to the health of their mouths and teeth. We had only 10 cases in 1934, all isolated at home.

We just escaped having a blank sheet for Typhoid Fever, only one case being reported for the year. This was transferred to Walker Gate Hospital. It was understood that the infection was received from a neighbouring district.

Thanks to the efficiency of the Midwifery service in the District, there were no cases of Puerperal Fever in 1934.

Disinfectants are supplied by the Council free to every house where a patient is isolated. Every house where an Infectious Disease has been notified is fumigated by the Council's Officers when the period of isolation is over. Infected clothing, blankets, etc., are in some cases fumigated separately.

MILK SUPPLY.

On the whole the milk supplied to our citizens is very good. Samples are taken and analysed regularly. Most dealers supply the milk in bottes which are sterilised before refilling.

The feeding of young infants is now largely accomplished through the use of Dried Milk, which undoubtedly tends to the elimination of the old bugbear amongst young children—Summer Diarrhœa. We had very little of this once common complaint in 1934. A large proportion of the dried milk used is dispensed at the local Child Welfare Centre, run by the County Council under an officer from a neighbouring centre.

HOUSING.

In the building up of a better generation of citizens, we realise that *Good Houses* come first.

During 1934 your Public Health Committee commenced the task of Slum Clearance under the 1930 Act. Together with the Surveyor I examined all doubtful properties and classified certain areas as Clearance Areas with a view to the decantation of some dwellers from wretched dwellings into new Council Houses. All condemned dwellings will be further examined by a Ministry of Health Inspector in the presence of owners or landlords and his decision followed by the Council, who have purchased land on the Woodhorn Demesne Estate on which to build new Council Houses.

The Long Park Scheme of Council dwellings was completed in 1934 and is a credit to the Council's Housing experts. The small houses there are specially appreciated by our older fellow-citizens who have retired from active life.

(Signed)

William Stephenson,

M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.),

Medical Officer of Health.

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